



## South Carolina Weekly Weather and Crop Progress Report

Cooperating with Clemson University

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**Week Ending:** August 24, 2008

**Cooperating Agencies:**

Clemson University  
SC State Climatology Office  
Farm Service Agency

### GENERAL

About half of South Carolina received any appreciable rain from Tropical Storm Fay. Once again, the Upstate missed out on precipitation. Hopefully, remnants of Fay moving east will provide some relief. Average soil moisture ratings greatly improved once again over the previous week for the state, and were reported at 20% very short, 30% short, 43% adequate, and 7% surplus. The average number of days that was suitable for field work was 5.4 last week.

### FIELD CROPS

**CORN** harvest was ongoing, but slowed in areas that got rains. Conditions were 46% very poor, 27% poor, 22% fair, and 5% good. Recent rains have improved **COTTON** conditions somewhat. Many growers were considering fungicide applications in areas with excessive rainfall. Conditions were 9% very poor, 13% poor, 46% fair, 30% good, and 2% excellent. White mold and leaf spot were threats to **PEANUTS** that have experienced prolong leaf wetness. Conditions were 4% poor, 36% fair, 57% good, and 3% excellent. Continued rainfall would be beneficial for **SORGHUM** silage. Conditions were 32% very poor, 30% poor, 24% fair, and 14% good. **SOYBEAN** growers kept on scouting for larvae pests with controls being applied in scattered areas. Beans were looking good in coastal areas with pods filling out in most of the crop. Conditions were 14% very poor, 24% poor, 37% fair, 24% good, and 1% excellent. **SWEET POTATOES** were 5% very poor, 5% poor, 45% fair, and 45% good. **TOBACCO** harvest was beginning to wind down in some areas, but there still was a lot of leaf remaining in many fields. Conditions were 1% very poor, 11% poor, 46% fair, 36% good, and 6% excellent.

### OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

**HAY** shortages continued particularly in the northern counties. **LIVESTOCK** were still enjoying cooler than normal weather for this time of year. Although recent August temperatures have been cooler, **PASTURES** have been very much in need of rainfall that the Upstate has not been getting. **APPLE** and **PEACH** picking were ongoing. **VEGETABLE** harvest was nearly complete for summer vegetable crops.

### Crop Progress for Week Ending August 24, 2008

Crop and Stage	2008	2007	5-Yr Avg	Crop and Stage			2008	2007	5-Yr Avg
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Apples, Harvested	10	12	12	Sorghum, Turned Color			58	76	77
Cantaloup, Harvested	99	100	100	Sorghum, Matured			23	43	42
Corn, Matured	92	93	92	Sorghum, Harvested			1	13	13
Corn, Harvested	21	32	27	Soybeans, Bloomed			91	95	93
Cotton, Bolls Set	95	90	91	Soybeans, Pods Set			63	61	61
Cotton, Bolls Opened	3	10	11	Soybeans, Turned Color			3	5	7
Hay, Other Hay, Harvested	91	97	95	Tobacco, Harvested			65	69	78
Peaches, Harvested	82	83	86	Tobacco, Stalks Destroyed			17	16	23
Sorghum, Headed	85	98	98	Watermelons, Harvested			96	97	98

### Condition for Week Ending August 24, 2008

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent	Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent		Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Apples	10	5	70	15	0	Peanuts	0	4	36	57	3
Corn	46	27	22	5	0	Sorghum	32	30	24	14	0
Cotton	9	13	46	30	2	Soybeans	14	24	37	24	1
Livestock	3	14	51	32	0	Sweet Potatoes	5	5	45	45	0
Pasture	18	23	36	22	1	Tobacco	1	11	46	36	6

## **South Carolina Weekly Weather Summary for the Week Ending August 24, 2008**

Early Wednesday morning fog reduced visibilities to "zero" at Shaw AFB in Sumter. For the rest of Wednesday, clouds began expanding into the Lowcountry around the circulation of Tropical Storm Fay, located over central Florida. By Thursday, onshore winds were gusting to 39 mph at both Charleston City and Folly Beach. Hunting Island State Park reported tidal overwash at time of high tide that resulted in property damage and disruptions to camping and travel. High winds in Beaufort County caused power failures due to falling tree limbs. Heavy rains were concentrated over the south coastal counties through Saturday but lingered into Sunday before diminishing. Rainfall totals from Wednesday through Sunday reached 5.84 inches at the Beaufort Marine Corps Air Station. On Saturday, most locations, north and away from the parade of coastal showers, observed a sunny, warm afternoon under bright blue skies. The week ended with a threat of a decaying tropical feature returning from the southwest with more rainfall. The state average temperature for the period was two degrees below normal.

The highest official temperature reported was 95 degrees at Walhalla, Sandy Springs, and Clinton on August 19. The lowest official temperature reported was 58 degrees at Cheraw on the morning of August 18. The heaviest official 24-hour rainfall reported was 2.80 inches at Walterboro ending at 7:00 a.m. on August 23. The state average rainfall for the period was 0.6 inches.

**SOIL:** 4-inch depth average soil temperature: Columbia 79 degrees.

**RIVERS AND SURF:** South Carolina river stages were below normal. Ocean water temperatures at Springmaid Pier Myrtle Beach were reported at 85 degrees.

### **Precipitation**

Location	Weekly Total	Jan 1 Total	Deviation from Average
Greer	0.00	21.86	-12.0
Columbia	0.47	27.64	-6.4
Orangeburg	0.21	25.39	-8.7
Charlotte, NC	0.00	21.97	-6.7
Augusta, GA	0.89	26.05	-4.9
Florence	0.01	28.07	-2.9
N Myrtle Beach	0.28	32.03	2.9
Charleston	3.49	27.15	-7.8
Savannah, GA	3.26	30.36	-4.3

Weekly rainfall totals this period ending midnight Sunday.



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